

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A hand stamp ~~(1)~~ , ~~with~~  
comprising:

a stamp plate carrier; ~~(2)~~ and

a stamp plate made from elastic material; ~~(3)~~ ~~as well as~~  
~~with~~

a plurality of engaging parts on the said stamp plate  
carrier ~~(2)~~;

~~and on the~~ a plurality of engaging parts on said stamp plate  
~~(3)~~ for a releasable interconnection thereof, wherein ~~the~~ said  
plurality of engaging parts are formed by multiple groove/ web  
structures ~~(4,5)~~.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the groove/web structures ~~(4, 5)~~ have rectangular cross-sections.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 2, wherein the groove/web structures ~~(4, 5)~~ have square cross-sections.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and the webs ~~(5)~~ have cross-sections engaging one behind the other.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 4, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and the webs ~~(5)~~ have trapezoidal cross-sections for providing a snap fit of said engaging parts on said stamp plate with said engaging parts on said stamp plate carrier.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the groove/web structures ~~(4, 5)~~ are arranged on the entire surface of the carrier ~~(2)~~ or of the stamp plate ~~(3)~~, respectively.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the groove/web structures ~~(4, 5)~~ have grooves ~~(4)~~ parallel to each other and webs ~~(5)~~ correspondingly parallel to each other.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 7, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and webs ~~(5)~~ are equally wide.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 7, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and webs ~~(5)~~ are equally high.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1 wherein transverse grooves traversing the grooves ~~(4)~~ and corresponding transverse webs ~~(7)~~ are provided.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the carrier ~~(2)~~ is made of a dimensionally stable material.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 11, wherein the carrier ~~(2)~~ is made of plastics.

Claim 13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 13, wherein the stamp plate ~~(3)~~ is made of caoutchouc.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein receiving means ~~(8)~~ for letters, or stamp characters ~~(9)~~, respectively, are formed on the side of the stamp plate ~~(3)~~ that faces away from the groove/web structures ~~(4, 5)~~.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 15, wherein the letters/stamp characters ~~(9)~~ are made of an elastic material.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 16, wherein the letters/stamp characters ~~(9)~~ consist of a material selected from the group consisting of plastics or caoutchouc.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 15, wherein several letters/stamp characters ~~(9)~~ are interconnected.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 15, wherein the receiving means ~~(8)~~ have rounded undercuts ~~(12)~~.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A hand stamp according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ which includes a design as a self-inking stamp with a turning mechanism.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate for a hand stamp ~~with~~ comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ a stamp plate carrier

\_\_\_\_\_ engaging parts for a releasable interconnection with a said stamp plate carrier of the hand stamp, wherein ~~the~~ said engaging parts are formed by a multiple groove/web structure ~~(4, 5)~~ wherein said stamp plate is made from elastic material.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 21, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~/webs ~~(5)~~ have rectangular cross-sections.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 22, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~/webs ~~(5)~~ have square cross-sections.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 21, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and the webs ~~(5)~~ have cross-sections engaging one behind the other.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 24, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and the webs ~~(5)~~ have trapezoidal cross-sections for providing a snap fit of said engaging parts on said stamp plate with said engaging parts on said stamp plate carrier.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 2, wherein the groove/web structures ~~(4, 5)~~ are arranged on the entire surface of the stamp plate ~~(3)~~.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 21, wherein parallel grooves ~~(4)~~ and webs ~~(5)~~ are provided.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 21, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and webs ~~(5)~~ are equally wide.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 21, wherein the grooves ~~(4)~~ and webs ~~(5)~~ are equally high.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 21, wherein transverse grooves ~~(7)~~ traversing the grooves ~~(4)~~ and corresponding transverse webs are provided.

Claim 31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A stamp plate according to claim 31, wherein the plate body consists of caoutchouc.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 32, wherein receiving means ~~(8)~~ for letters/stamp characters ~~(9)~~ are formed on the side which faces away from the groove/web structure ~~(4, 5)~~.

Faber- S10- PCT  
10/530,148

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A stamp plate according to claim 32, wherein the receiving means ~~(8)~~ have rounded undercuts ~~(12)~~.